

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

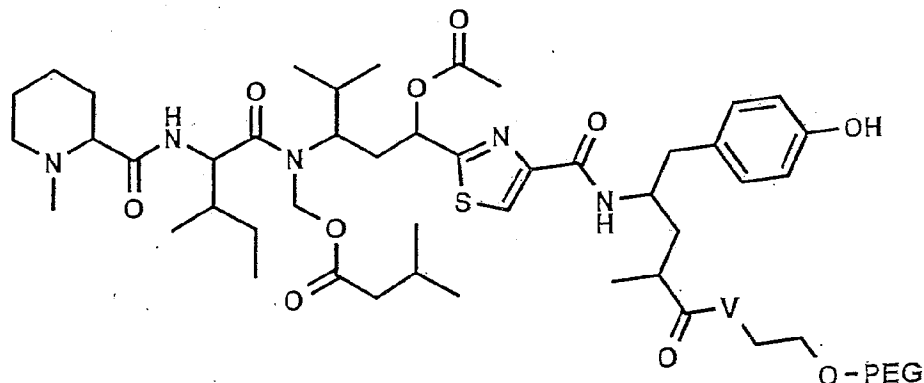
The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Claims 1-11. (Canceled)

Claim 12. (Currently Amended) A method for treating a patient suffering from breast cancer, cervical cancer, ovarian cancer, colorectal cancer or non-small cell lung cancer, comprising administering to the patient one or more compounds of claim [[7]] 23.

Claim 13. (Canceled)

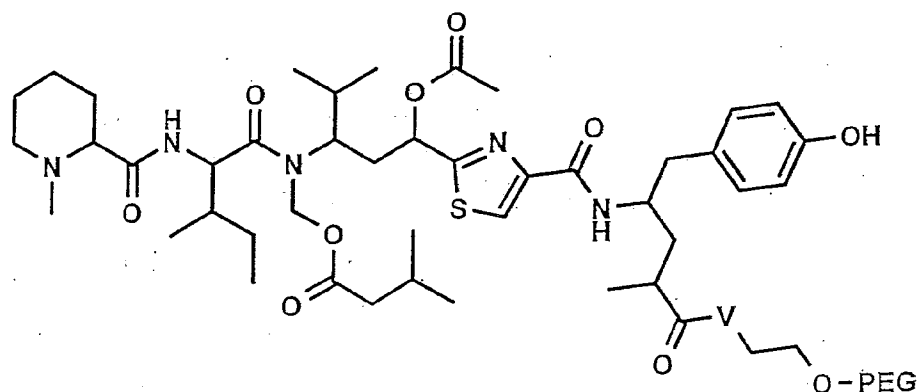
Claim 14. (Currently Amended) A compound of claim [[7]] 23 having the following formula:



wherein V is an oxygen atom; a NH group; a group of the formula $-O-(CR^aR^b)_n-O-$ where R^a and R^b are independently C_1 - C_6 alkyl groups or together part of cycloalkyl group and n is 1 or 2; $-NH-R^c-NH-CO-CH_2-O-$; $-O-R^c-O-CH_2-O-$; or a group of the formula $-O-R^c-O-$ where R^c is alkylene, arylene or a cycloalkylene group.

Claim 15. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 14 wherein V is oxygen.

Claim 16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12 wherein a compound having the following formula is administered:



wherein V is an oxygen atom; a NH group; a group of the formula $\text{-O-(CR}^a\text{R}^b)_n\text{-O-}$ ~~$\text{-O-(CR}^a\text{R}^b)_n\text{-O-}$~~ where R^a and R^b are independently $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl groups or together part of cycloalkyl group and n is 1 or 2; ~~$\text{-NH-R}^c\text{-NH-CO-CH}_2\text{-O-}$~~ $\text{-NH-R}^c\text{-NH-CO-CH}_2\text{-O-}$; $\text{-O-R}^c\text{-O-CH}_2\text{-O-}$; or a group of the formula $\text{-O-R}^c\text{-O-}$ where R^c is alkylene, arylene or a cycloalkylene group.

Claim 17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16 wherein V is oxygen.

Claim 18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16 wherein V is a NH group

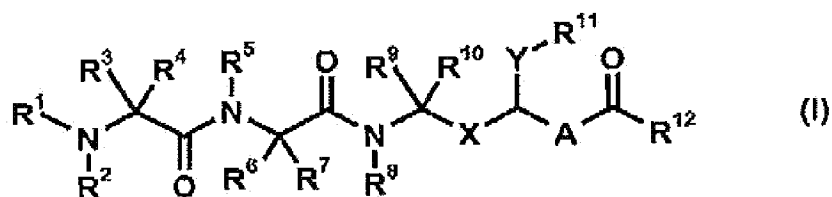
Claim 19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16 wherein V is a group of the formula $\text{-O-(CR}^a\text{R}^b)_n\text{-O-}$ ~~$\text{-O-(CR}^a\text{R}^b)_n\text{-O-}$~~ .

Claim 20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[7]]~~ 16 wherein V is an oxygen atom; a NH group; a group of the formula $\text{-O-(CR}^a\text{R}^b)_n\text{-O-}$ where R^a and R^b are independently $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl groups or together part of cycloalkyl group and n is 1 or 2; $\text{-NH-R}^c\text{-NH-CO-CH}_2\text{-O-}$; $\text{-O-R}^c\text{-O-CH}_2\text{-O-}$; or a group of the formula $\text{-O-R}^c\text{-O-}$ where R^c is alkylene, arylene or a cycloalkylene group.

Claim 21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[9]]~~ 16 , wherein the polyethylene glycol has a molecular weight of 30kDa.

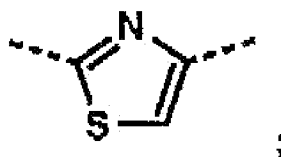
Claim 22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[9]]~~ 16 , wherein the polyethylene glycol has a molecular weight of 35kDa.

Claim 23. (New) A compound in the general formula U-V-W, wherein U refers to the Formula (I),



wherein

A has the following structure



X is CH_2 ;

Y is an oxygen atom;

R^1 and R^3 together are of the formula $-(CH_2)_4-$;

R^2 is a C_1 - C_4 alkyl group;

R^4 , R^5 , R^6 , and R^{10} are hydrogen atoms;

R^7 is an alkyl group;

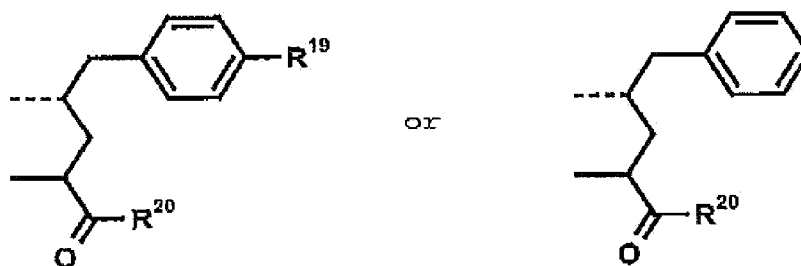
R^8 is a hydrogen atom, an alkyl, alkenyl, or a heteroalkyl group

R^9 is an alkyl group;

R^{11} is an acetyl group;

R^{12} is a group of formula NHR^{18} ;

R^{18} has the following structures:



wherein R¹⁹ is H or OH and R²⁰ is -V-W or

wherein R¹⁹ is -V-W and R²⁰ is OH, NH₂, or a heteroalkyl group;

V is an oxygen atom, a NH group, or a heteroalkylene group

wherein the heteroatoms are selected from O, S, and N; and

W is a polymer comprising a polythelene glycol (PEG).

Claim 24. (New) A compound, according to Claim 23, wherein R² is a methyl group.

Claim 25. (New) A compound, according to Claim 23, wherein R⁷ is a group of formula -CH(CH₃)CH₂CH₃.

Claim 26. (New) A compound, according to Claim 23, wherein R⁸ is a hydrogen atom or a group of formula -CH₂OC(=O)R¹⁷, wherein R¹⁷ is a C₁-C₆ alkyl or a C₂-C₆ alkenyl group.

Claim 27. (New) A compound, according to Claim 23, wherein R⁹ is a group of formula -CH(CH₃)₂.

Claim 28. (New) A compound, according to Claim 23, wherein V is an oxygen atom, a NH group, or a group of the formula -O-(CR^aR^b)_n-O-, whereby R^a and R^b independently from each other are C₁-C₆ alkyl groups, or, together, are part of a cycloalkyl group and n is 1 or 2; -NH-R^c-NH-CO-CH₂-O-, -O-R^c-O-CO-CH₂-O-, or a group of formula -O-R^c-O-, whereby R^c is an alkylene, arylene, or a cycloalkylene group.

Claim 29. (New) A compound, according to Claim 23, wherein the compound of Formula (I) is Tubulysin A.

Claim 30. (New) A compound, according to Claim 23, wherein the polymer is a polyethylene glycol (PEG).

Claim 31. (New) A compound, according to Claim 23, wherein the polyethylene glycol has a molecular weight of more than 30 kDa to 100 kDa.